

July 27, 2011

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, Southwest
Washington, DC 20554

RE: The 11-65 proceeding, AT&T Incorporated's application to acquire T-Mobile USA

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

The Pioneer Valley Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO stands with those committed to achieving social justice and improving the quality of life for workers in Western Massachusetts. That's why we support the merger between AT&T and T-Mobile.

AT&T's record of respect for its employees suggests this merger will improve working conditions for many in the telecommunications industry. Unlike T-Mobile USA, which repeatedly deters its employees from seeking union representation, AT&T allows its staff to make their own decisions on the matter. This choice makes AT&T a standout in the communications industry. It is the only wireless company whose employees benefit from union protection.

The quality of life and working environment for T-Mobile USA employees assumed by AT&T, then, stands to improve. If these employees choose to join the Communications Workers of America alongside their AT&T colleagues, they will be more likely to work in an environment free of health and safety hazards, discrimination, and policies that diminish the value of working men and women.

On a broader scale, the merger will improve quality of life for workers beyond the communications industry because it will encourage economic activity. With their newfound access to more powerful mobile Internet technology, businesses can innovate, streamline operations, and increase profits. They can also build upon the infrastructure investment, \$8 billion, committed by AT&T to establishing its expanded 4G LTE network. The likely result of these improvements, ultimately, is more job opportunities for Western Massachusetts workers.

On behalf of those workers, we urge you to approve the T-Mobile/AT&T merger.

Best regards,



Richard M. Brown
President, Pioneer Valley Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO

CC: Commissioner Michael Copps
Commissioner Robert McDowell
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn